30th January 1956]

* 3105 *Q.*—Sri K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any representation from the public through the Chief Minister on 23rd April 1955 regarding the construction of the Karimpuzha Bridge on the Tottenham road in Walluvanad taluk, Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) Presumably the Member refers to a memorandum, dated 23rd April 1955, presented by him to the Chief Minister.

(*b*) The bridge work is being considered for inclusion in the Second Five-Year Plan.

* 3106 *Q.*—Sri N. RAMAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to put up wooden foot-bridges across the Buckingham Canal at convenient and necessary places for the purpose of having access to the isolated villages in the coastal strip between the sea and the canal in the Chingleput district; and

(*b*) if so, how many foot bridges do they propose to put up?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have sanctioned recently the construction of an overbridge at mile 53/7 of Buckingham Canal in the place of the existing ballacut to enable the Harijans of Seekinankuppam Cheri, Madurantakam taluk, Chingleput district, to cross the canal to get drinking water from the sea-shore spring situated on the other side of the canal.

* 3107 *Q.*—Sri C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Chief Minister has received any memorandum from the Praja Socialist Party, Quilandy, Malabar, asking for the construction of a bridge at Kanayagode, Quilandy firka, Malabar, during his Malabar tour; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMI PADAYACHI : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The question of including the work in the Second Five-Year Plan is being considered.

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Sir, various suggestions for inclusion of many schemes in the Second Five-Year Plan have been dealt with, they have also been repeatedly discussed on the floor of the House and the Madras Government have also been saying that they have formulated the schemes to be included in the Second Five-Year Plan. Still, the Hon. Minister for Local Administration

is now saying that the question of including the work is 'being considered'. Will the Hon. Minister make up his mind at least now and say that so far as the Second Five-Year Plan is concerned, this work will be included in it?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMI PADAYACHI: Yes, Sir, in view of the importance of the matter, we are reconsidering this matter.

Tamilnad Christian Association Conference

* 3108 Q.—SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received the resolution passed by the Second Conference of the Tamilnad Christian Association held at Tindivanam on 17th December 1954 regarding—

(i) the removal of the distinction between Hindu Harijans and Christians of Harijan origin in matters concerning educational concessions and appointments; and

(ii) the extension of the special privileges and the preference for ten more years from the date of expiry of the tenth year specified in the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Engineering degree of Sri Venkateswara University

* 3109 Q.—SRI K. VINAYAKAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Engineering degree of Sri Venkateswara University is held on a par with the degree of the Madras University?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: No, Sir. The University has not raised the question for the consideration of this Government so far.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM: Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that students belonging to Madras State are now studying in the Andhra State and they will be conferred the Venkateswara University Degree of Engineering soon after they pass out from their institutions next year? These students being residents of the Madras State will naturally seek employment in this State. So, will the Government treat the Degree of Venkateswara University on a par with the Degree of the Madras University for purposes of employment, especially as the Examination in the former University is being conducted by the Professors of the Madras University?